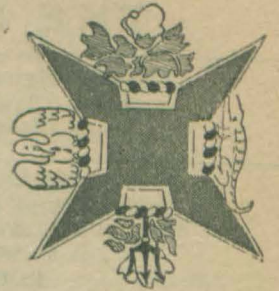




"IT SHALL BE DONE"

The

DIXIE



OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE DIXIE (31st) DIVISION

VOLUME 1

CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA, Friday, April 25, 1941

Number 16

Alabama Girls Invade Dixie In A Body

Boys of the 167th Infantry Regiment are getting those rusty lines in working order, the canteens are full of rabid soldiers purchasing hair tonic and toilet articles, manners are getting a thorough brushing and chivalry is once again rearing its almost forgotten head; for those Alabama soldiers will play host May 10th and 11th to an invasion of Camp Blanding. And what a battle it will be! The "Sweethearts of Alabama" have been invited here en masse.

The old game of feminine wiles versus masculine wit is scheduled to begin on a Saturday morn and toddle over into the late hours of Sunday night. Some of the more boisterous of the boys will demonstrate a bit of their newly acquired energy by playing a base ball game to begin the program, and even's will rapidly grow more general when the girls enter the fray at a dance in the Division Service Club that night.

After a late bit of sleeping, the soldires and their guests will attend a lakeside open-air service on the beach at Kingsley, a more serious trend in the schedule. Special ceremonies commemorating mother's Day, the dearest "sweetheart" of the soldier, will be held. That afternoon a symphony orchestra will serenade the couples.

The visitors will come to Blanding by train, automobile, busses and otherwise, using their own discretion. Tentative plans are to transport those who must stop off at Jacksonville, by army vehicle.

Host for the occasion will be Regimental Commander, Colonel Walter M. Thompson. Chaplain Lt. Richard D. Wolcott has been placed in charge of arrangements with the assistance of the staff officers. Alabama's Governor, Frank M. Dixon along with Adjutant General Ben M. Smith, will be visiting during that time.

Alabama boys from the 117th Field Artillery, as well as men from that state in other regiments, will be invited to attend the functions.

Private of 1923 Now Makes Lt. Colonel

Lieutenant-Colonel W. Eugene Jones of Haines City, Florida, received his promotion to this rank from that of Major Sunday. Lt.-Col. Jones, former secretary of the Division Schools from December 19 to last February 7, is now Executive Officer of the 116th Field Artillery. Lt.-Col. Jones began his 18 years of service in the National Guard as a private June 23, 1923.

Loading Pointers For Selectees—155 mm "Howitzer"



A group of 114th Field Artillery selectees practice with the big guns, taking a change from days of drilling. The gun sergeant instructs them in proper handling of the massive 155 mm howitzers as they go through repeated acts of simulated firing. Reports have it that they can handle the weapons as efficiently as though they had made a lifetime practice of the job.

Staff Photo

Dixie Players, Dramatists, Draw Professionals Division-Wide

Hollywood Extras Found In Group

A full-fledged little theatre group, composed of several former actors with professional experience and as eager, amateurs, is the division's latest club to come into its own.

Known as "The Dixie Players," the group responded to an invitation by Mrs. Betty Ball Brown junior hostess, for soldiers interested in dramatics. The first meeting was held last Friday and it was decided to hold weekly Tuesday night classes in dramatics under the direction of Pvt. Eric G. Picker, Headquarters Battery, 56th Brigade, who is a graduate of the St. Louis School for the Theatre.

Included also in the group's roster are Pvt. Robert A. Sapp, Medical Detachment, 167th Infantry, a baritone soloist and former Hollywood extra, Pvt. Gordon C. Trolley, Co. C, 106th Medical regiment, a member of the Cornell University Players while in college; Sgt. Frank J. Kroell, 31st Division Signal Co., who was with the Little Theatre in Mobile, and Pvt. James S. Williams,

Medical Detachment, 167th Infantry, formerly a member of the Little Theatre in Birmingham.

Elected directors were: Sponsor, Mrs. Betty Ball Brown; President, Eric G. Picker; Vice-President, Pvt. Louis Gerriero and Pvt. Gordon C. Trolley; Secretary, Pvt. Earl Moore; Technical Director, Sergeant Thomas Billello; Publicity Chairman, Pvt. William M. McKinney and Business Man-

116th Selectees Lauded By Chief

The 116th Field Artillery's recently added through selective service soldiers were given words of praise this week by their commander, Colonel Homer W. Hesterly. They will finish their sixth week of the eight weeks' intensive training schedule this week, and compliments came their way because of their "Progress in foot drills, standing gun drill, motor driving and communications." The Colonel also stated that discipline had been excellent. The parent regiment, states Colonel Hesterly, will be highly credited with this group when they are assimilated.

Dixie Will Strut En Masse In May

Okay boys. Tell the folks at home to be sure not to miss this big show May 10th, because on that day, the 31st Division will step out in a Grand Review. Governors of the four home states are expected to be present, and thousands are coming to witness the event.

This will be the first "all out" review of the Dixie soldiers, and they will demonstrate their progress made during the past five months of intensive training. Complete details will be forthcoming at a later date.

Lifeguards Taught Tutoring-Swimming

The 116th Field Artillery will blossom forth with 97 would-be lifeguards this week, who will begin a three weeks' intensive lessons training under the direction of expert, Lt. Woodrow W. Dickey, who is Recreation officer. The course will be actually taught by the swimming instructor from the University of Florida, and aids will be the swimming class of the same university. Graduates from the course will instruct other swimmers in the 116th and do life-guard duty. The course will prepare some of the men for advanced lifeguard work.

Dances Open At Service Club; F. A. Unit First

A formal military ball Saturday night in the Thirty-First (Dixie) Division Hostess House, sponsored by the 114th Field Artillery, a Mississippi unit, inaugurates a series of dances to be given here by the various regiments of the division. Mrs. C. W. Chalker, senior hostess of the 31st Division, of Starke, has arranged to have 300 young ladies present at each dance from Palatka, Jacksonville, Gainesville, Lake Butler, Green Cove Springs, Starke, and Lawtey, all adjacent towns to Camp Blanding. A number of mothers will accompany the girls to act as chaperons.

Tomorrow night the former University of Mississippi 13 piece orchestra, which in military life is the 114th Field Artillery band, will furnish the music. The dance will last from eight to 11:30, and during intermission a special program will be presented, featuring Miss Ginger Hebert of New Orleans and Hayes Hebert, her brother, now of the 156th Infantry in an interpretive tap dance. Prior to Hebert's induction for his year's training the brother and sister were a professional dancing team. Other intermission numbers are being prepared by the 114th, and the auditorium of the hostess house has been decorated with the regimental colors, maroon, blue and gold, and also with dogwood.

Girls wear evening gowns and the soldires wear the summer uniforms of khaki tie, shirt and trousers. Only the enlisted men of the regiment sponsoring the hop are admitted and they may bring their wives or sweethearts. The only officer tomorrow will be Colonel A. G. Paxton, Commander of the 14th, who will dance the first dance and make his exit, in keeping with the etiquette governing such occasions. Lt. Edwin E. Wells, 114th recreation officer, and Staff sergeant Tommy Billello of 116th Headquarters battery, are in charge of arrangements. The regiment sponsoring the dance furnishes transportation for the ladies.

The next dance will be May 2, when Special Troops regiment, from Alabama, gives a frolic. Following on May 3 is a dance by the 106th Engineers and on May 7th a Florida regiment, the 116th Field Artillery from the Tampa area, will sponsor a ball. A soldier's life isn't all work and early hours, after all.

Total Army strength, as of April 17, 1941, was estimated at 1,210,600 men, according to official bulletin from the Public Relations Department, War Dept. in Washington.

THE DIXIE

Official Newspaper of the
Dixie (31st) Division
Camp Blanding, Florida

HONORARY EDITOR

Major General John O. Persons
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
Col. O. W. McNeese

EDITOR

2nd Lt. O. C. McDavid
BUSINESS MANAGER

Capt. C. W. Springer
MANAGING EDITOR

Corp. James N. Alsop

Corp. John N. Harrington — Staff Photographer
Pvt. 1st Class Marshall V. Hale — Staff Artist

REPORTERS

Corp. E. Martin Meadows — Alabama
Corp. Charles D. Pou — Mississippi
Pvt. 1st Class Albert W. Anderson, Jr. — Florida
Pvt. Edmund J. Land, Jr. — Louisiana
Pvt. 1st Class Wilmer O. Goff, Mechanical Supt.

ADVISORY BOARD

Col. O. W. McNeese, Col. F. W. Manley, Lt. Col. H. E. Walden, Lt. Col. Louis J. Wise, Lt. Col. J. L. Peterson, Lt. Col. L. S. Sanders, Maj. T. D. Nettles, Jr., Major J. M. Faulconer, Capt. Ben Hudson.

REGIMENTAL PUBLICITY OFFICERS

Capt. J. E. Mandeville, Special Troops; Major Frank C. Barchard, 106th Q. M.; Capt. Frank L. Ramsey, 106th Med.; 2nd Lt. Harry M. Cousans, 106th Eng.; 2nd Lt. Thomas Bonner, 61st Inf. Brig. Hq.; Capt. Glenn C. Rutledge, 155th Inf.; 1st Lt. Jules H. Deshotel, 156th Inf.; Capt. Harry M. Dozier, 62nd Inf. Brig. Hq.; 2nd Lt. Frank H. Crowe, 124th Inf.; 1st Lt. Richard Walcott, 167th Inf.; 2nd Lt. John F. Turner, 56th F. A. Brig. Hq.; 2nd Lt. Vinton R. Ives, Jr., 114th F. A.; Major Cyril S. Lloyd, 116th F. A.; 2nd Lt. Jack Parsons, 117th F. A.

The Dixie is published Friday of each week in the interest of the officers and men of the 31st Division with publication offices at Press Section, Division Headquarters.—Phone 240.

An article appeared in the St. Augustine newspaper last week explaining the feelings of the soldier when he went on leave. It asked the people of that picturesque city to have patience with the man in uniform; told them about the job he did, and how his mind works. The people of that city have taken that article to heart and are ready to welcome the men in uniform. They want the boys in khaki to feel that the Oldest city in America is open to them any time the chance arises to make a trip. There are many sights to see, many places to visit and people waiting to help the boys on leave enjoy themselves. So the issue is squarely up to us. What impression do we want to make? When a soldier does something he is not the only person judged. Every comrade who shares his job is placed before the bar. This is an old appeal; but it bears repeating time and again. We are certain that the boys of the Dixie Division will do their share to make the people of St. Augustine glad they invited us to their city.

Be sure to try to get your folks to come down for that big parade the Division is having on the tenth of next month. It is the first chance for the Dixie boys to really do some parade ground strutting on their own, and should prove quite a show. And the folks will certainly enjoy seeing twenty thousand men marching just for their benefit. Make your reservations at the guest house now so that the entire family will have a place to stay while here.

THEATRE MEMO

Below is a schedule of feature attractions to be shown at the 31st Division Theatre during the coming week. It is desired to bring to the attention of patrons that no matinee will be held until further notice, all pictures showing for the first time at 6:30 o'clock each evening.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26—Double Feature Program "I'M STILL ALIVE" featuring Kent Taylor and Linda Hayes; and "THE GREAT PLANE ROBBERY" with Jack Holt.

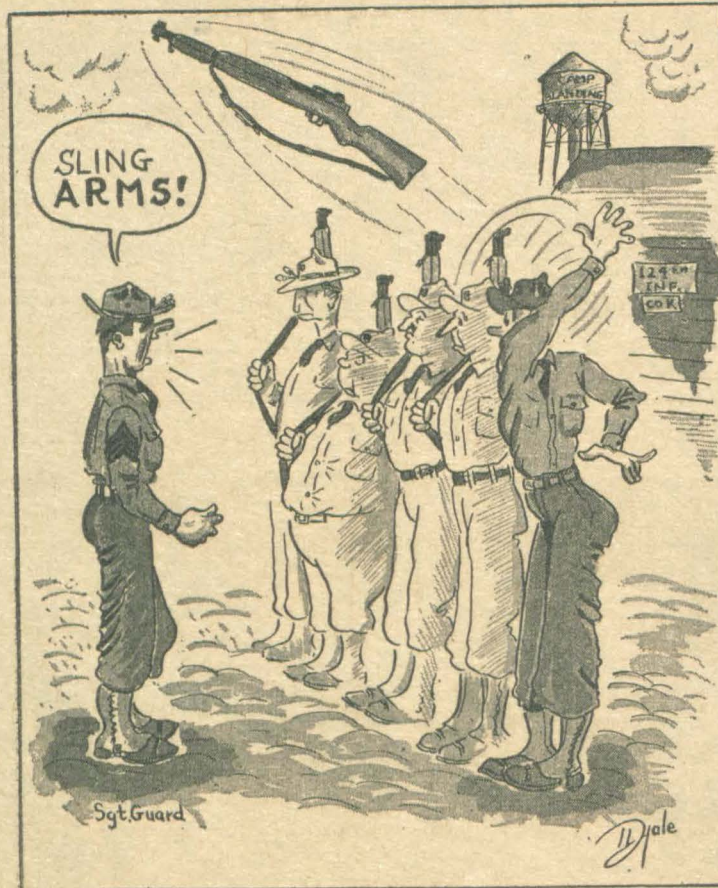
SUNDAY AND MONDAY, APRIL 27, 28—"KITTY FOYLE" starring Ginger Rogers and Dennis Morgan.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29—"TOO MANY GIRLS" starring Lucille Ball, Richard Carlson and Frances Langford.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, APRIL 30 and MAY 1—"CHRISTMAS IN JULY" starring Dick Powell and Ellen Drew.

FRIDAY, MAY 2—"PUBLIC DEB NO. 1" starring Brenda Joyce and George Murphy.

SATURDAY, MAY 3—Double Feature—"GIVE US WINGS" starring Billy Halop and Huntz Hall; and "BLONDIE PLAYS CUPID," Starring Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake.



Blasting Artillery Battery Consumes Weekly Heiffer

Other Commodities, Animals, Quantities

Maybe you didn't realize it at the time and possibly you figured it was your due so what about it but we have learned from an authoritative source that you and friends during the course of last week, or courses last week, ate 200 pounds of beef; or roughly, a heiffer.

Furthermore, as sleepy as you were those mornings, no less than 12 dozen eggs were stopped from further maturing. (If you're not so good at mathematics that amounts to, roughly, 144.) On scrambled egg morning it ran even higher, something like 15 dozen.

These and other pertinent facts concerning messhall cuisine and food consumption were gleaned in an interview with a typical mess-sergeant in an average sized battery. Substituting names for types it was Sergeant La Beaume Peeler, Battery C, 114th Field Artillery. He does all the buying.

Drinks, in the form of tea, coffee, and lemonade, run around 259 gallons for seven days. Considered in a ratio of to-water-in-

the-division-tank this wouldn't be so much; exactly 1-3,851th. But as water under the bridge it would be surprising; to say the least.

Potatoes also ran; in fact around 245 pounds. They were boiled, baked, fried and au gratin and for variety au gratin, baked, boiled and fried. Some were fixed one way and some another.

Beans don't amount to as much as you'd think they would. And they all averaged about the same: limas, 8 or 9 pounds per meal per two or three days a week, the same for the navy variety and black-eyed peas. They just take up a lot of room on your plate.

That for the beans and glut-tonously going through 36 pounds of ham, 24 chickens, 100 pounds of sugar, garnished with seven gallons of catsup or sopped in an equal amount of syrup, we reach desserts. Four gallons of ice-cream on those Sundays. On cobler days the recipe called for at least eight pounds of blackberries, peaches, or apples let alone the pastry as it, of course, oftentimes the case, much to the disgust of the cooks.

We don't see how you do it.

Prize Long Letter

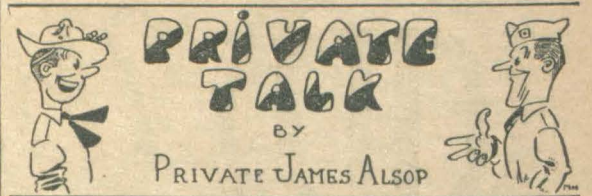
H. R. Ervin, 29, recruit in Company "A" of the 124th Infantry, received a letter 14 feet long from home last week, which in his case is sunny Miami, Fla. The letter contained a message for Ervin's buddy, Percy C. Manley, 24, another Miami recruit in Company B, of the 124th.

Both Ervin and Manley were clerks in the Miami Postoffice for several years, and the long letter containing 20 messages, was from their friends in Local 172 (Miami) Federation of Postal Clerks. Ervin and Manley are assigned to special duty in the 31st Division postoffice by reason of their experience. The interesting letter required twenty and one-half cents postage and contained not only messages but

cartoons and drawings. Ervin says he is answering the letter as fast as he can.

"John Doe", 156th Taught To Pen Name

From now on there'll be no illiterates in Louisiana's 156th Regiment, Infantry, at least if the names on the payroll roster will indicate anything. For several months past, a number of men have been signing the books, "John (his X mark) Doe" But that will soon be over Clerks have been ordered by Lt. Alcee Maxfield, regimental personnel adjutant from Lake Charles, to teach all men of the regiment to sign their own names before the next payday.



Ever wonder how a newspaper column comes into existence. Well, it is sired by transient bits of gossip, conceived in the morbid mind of someone who could be doing something constructive and given birth by a battered old typewriter which could be put to much better use. This bit of weekly chatter is always a surprising thing if it actually reaches print. It is the last item on schedule, and could well be called the "Dixie Hash" because it consists of all the things left over from the worth while news space.

And so to the first matter: Three young lads of the 117th Field Artillery Medical Detachment had begun to feel the sortage of letters rather acutely, so decided to remedy this sorry situation. Finding that a trip was being planned, they drew into a close huddle, scratched furiously on some random bits of paper, and set off on the tour. As they passed each town, the notes were distributed near any attractive female, and fate was left to attend to the rest of the bargain. Lately letters have been pouring in addressed to Pvts. Spann, McKenzie and Campbell. It seems that quite a little sob story was enclosed with each note, and also the address of the distributor. If they want to know who exposed their little system, it was a young chappie by the name of Veto B. Hill.

They claim to have made twelve bulls eyes out of twenty tries.

Captain Ben Hudson, Division Recreation Officer, is quite upset these days. He played host to a former World's Champion heavyweight the other day when plans were being laid for the Army-Navy fights, and so felt responsible for seeing that everyone was well cared for. What should happen but that Commander Gene Tuney would wire back and request that a search be made for his hat, left behind by mistake. Commotion around Division Hq., caused by the search for the great man's chapeau, a body would have sworn that parachute troops were landing.

A young staff sergeant, Hobart H. Hale by name, a member of the 117th Field Artillery Band, is nursing a knot on the head as well as a sorely wounded dignity, this week, due to the humiliating experience of a few days ago. It seems that a quaint little opossum somehow managed to snuggle between the sheets while the sergeant was picture showing at the Division cinema center. When the sgt. joined his unexpected bunkmate, he hurriedly changed his mind and decided against sleep. When the sprinting four, striper bounded through he door, he discovered that he had made an embarrassing mistake; the door wasn't in the same place he had decided to make his exit. And so to bed—

The names of the participants haven't yet been revealed, but word has reached the press section that four boys of battery F, 117th Field Artillery tried to stage a little night maneuver on their own. But they beat a hasty retreat when they found the enemy wasn't simulated; he was an enraged farmer, just as big as life, carrying a very real shotgun.

Congratulations to two more boys of the Division who leave the 31st to take wings. Sgt. Walter T. Mann and Pvt. Thomas Augustus Rives, Jr. are entering the Flying Corps, and will soon be on the topside looking down. Sgt. Mann is from Hq. Btry., 1st Bn., 114th Field Artillery; Pvt. Rives did his time in Co. C. 155th Inf.

Tis indeed a sad state of affairs when a man's tentmates breathe a sigh of relief because he is getting a discharge and has to leave the Army. But that's the sad situation with Pvt. Densel Wainwright. His buddies are frank to admit that they are glad to see him go. Not that there isn't a hearty handclasp all around, and maybe a few reminiscences before the parting, but you see, young Wainwright is taking his mascot with him. He is a member of Co. B, 106th Quartermaster (the company made notorious by sgt. Red) and possesses a fiend of a parrot who delights in screaming "fall out" at the top of her voice, then giving a whistle imitation. The boys were said to have been on the verge of a mass nervous breakdown.

Dixie's Youngest Gets Colors And Word From General

Dixie's youngest offspring, the 106th Medical Regiment, came of age this week, and plowed through with flying colors Wednesday, when Colonel Aneese Mogabgab received the new regimental colors from the hands of Major General John C. Persons, Division Commander. With impressive ceremonies and fitting festivities, the occasion was celebrated.

The entire regiment paraded for their regimental and divisional commanders, the display drawing praise from General Persons for the excellence shown. The officers of the regiment, with their wives were present at a dinner following the parade, with General Persons and his staff as guests of honor.

In presenting the colors to Colonel Mogabgab, General Persons gave a short resume of the important part played by the Medical Service, both in war and in peace.

116 F. A. Band Hits The Air

Under the impressive title of "the Rythmaires," the 116th Field Artillery band last night (Friday) took to the air waves over radio station WRUF, located in Gainesville. The programs of dance tunes was broadcast from 8:00 until 8:25 o'clock, and will be a regular Friday night feature of WRUF right on from 8:30 to 8:55 o'clock. The Tampa youths invite their "home folks" especially to listen for them. Staff sergeant Walter Bean of Tampa is leader of the 12-piece combination.

The weekly spot on the air followed a successful audition at WRUF Thursday afternoon. The same afternoon a string quartet "The South Florida Play Boys" also from the 116th Field Artillery, auditioned for WRUF and will receive a spot as soon as one becomes available. On April 18 the "Play Boys" won first prize, \$10.00, in an amateur contest sponsored by a Starke theatre. Corporal Cliff Coker, Bartow, is leader and plays violin. Other members are private Milton Bassett, guitar; pvt. Sam Crain, Milton, piano; private Oscar Williams, Lakeland, mandolin and private Pierce Hicks, Lakeland, banjo.

Starke Playroom Going Full Blast

Opened recently in Starke is another contribution to soldiers in the way of recreation. It is a hall at the American Legion Building sponsored by and operated through Works Progress Administration. Staffed with seven experts at entertaining, including three charming hostesses, this establishment on West Call St. in this nearest city to Camp Blanding is ready, willing and has facilities to take care of soldiers with a bit of spare time.

On the staff is a pianist who is frequently seen playing and singing with a group of soldiers, or singing herself, for she is a top notch vocalist. There are all sorts of games as well as tables with stationery and pen and ink for the soldier to write a letter if he wishes.

Civil War Cannon Guards General

A 79 year old cannon now graces the lawn in front of the B Road home of Brigadier General Sumter L. Lowery, Jr., commander of the Dixie Division's 56th Field Artillery brigade. The old cannon, a civil war relic used by the yankees, was formerly an ornament at the National Guard Camp Foster, near Jacksonville.

Headquarters battery of the 56th Brigade, from Avon Park, obtained permission to take the field piece, made in 1857 at the Allegheny Arsenal, and a detail of workers spent several days cleaning the 1,200 pound gun and painting it army brown with a red trim. The cannon was placed on the lawn Wednesday.

The men of the 56th have christened the gun "Ann" in honor of General Lowery's six year-old daughter.

Division Band Begins Play

Made up of all members of the bands of the 31st Division, a massed band was rehearsed beginning last Wednesday and to continue for four weeks. The band begins its rehearsals at 8:00 o'clock a. m., of each Wednesday morning (only on Wednesdays) and continues through 11:30 a. m. Place of rehearsal is on a vacant lot between the regimental areas of 114th Field Artillery and 106th Medical regiment. Warrant officer George H. Mackie is in charge of the massed band.

The purpose of the massed band is to reach higher standards of efficiency in the regimental bands and work out and adopt a uniform training program in the division for them. Concerts will be held from time to time, through which it is hoped music enthusiasm will increase and morale will be uplifted.

Newest Company Shows 'Em How

Don't tell the boys of Co. I, 106th Medical regiment, that it takes a long time for selectees to acclimate themselves to army life and become soldiers. They might tell you what they've done since their company was formed 15 days ago and make you eat your words.

In the scant two weeks since the selectee group was organized the men, under leadership of non commissioned officers transferred here from Co. G and Co. H put a sawdust carpet on their company street, set out shrubbery, numbered their tents, built clothing racks, and have whitewashed the bases of the trees in the company area. A plaque is awarded each week for the best looking and most orderly tent.

They report that they are living so comfortably that they hardly regret leaving civilian life. Lt. Elmer E. Kramer is acting c. o.

Rolling Church Will Go With 156

To carry on maneuvers this summer with the 156th Infantry, Chaplain Storey of that regiment has purchased sound equipment and record playing machine, with which the boys will be entertained while playing war.

Air Mail Mother Nature's Way



Max I. Williams, 23, Lakeland, Fla., youth in the 124th Infantry, brings with him to Camp Blanding one of the most unusual hobbies represented here, carrier pigeons.

Williams, a member of the Plant City-Lakeland Racing Pigeon Club, has raised pigeons for ten years and has been racing them for five. He owns about 60 of the intelligent birds, has six with him here. Recruit Williams is a soldier in Headquarters Company of the 124th and has a large pigeon cote near his tent.

"I steal a march on the postoffice department," Williams avers. "I send letters to Lakeland to my parents and my Girl postage free via pigeon mail and it takes less than four hours for a pigeon to fly from here to Lakeland—You can't even beat that time with special delivery air mail!"

In the picture Williams (right) is explaining to his friend, Corp. Jack Waas, (left) 24, of Jacksonville, Fla., who is a National Guardsman in the same company, how a message written on rice paper is placed in a small aluminum tube and attached to the pigeon's leg.

"Grandparents and cousins of some of my birds are in Army message service in England right now," Private Williams states. He adds that he will be glad to donate his pigeons and services to the Army if ever needed.

Stepchild Company Deserves Place In Specialists All

By Private Edmund J. Land

When a unit is made up of men from each of the four states sending troops to the 31st Division, and acts as a company, a battalion headquarters company and a divisional headquarters company all at the same time, and when practically every man in the company is a specialist of some sort; well, that outfit sets a record for being unique.

Such is the plight of that heterogeneous collection of men who make up the 31st Division Headquarters company, residing in the Special Troops area. Most companies have a home, but these boys are the lost souls of the Division. Mobile, Ala. rather doubtfully claims the distinction of harboring this unit during ordinary times, but the famous Mobile Rifles are really only a nucleus of the real thing.

The duties of this company? They must supply men for the finance section, a job of caring for twenty men, each a specialist. The Division Staff enlisted men claim the company street as home, yet they could well represent every section of the Division's four mother states. Each of the men in this section also were chosen for special ability. Add the job of supplying men for Special Troops headquarters, and the larger percentage of the companies' 142 men is almost exhausted. And none of those men are eligible for guard or k. p. duty. And these boys really have to soldier. They have to make marches, set up camps, and transport the entire Division headquarters on any maneuver. They aren't white collar workers.

Stripes about the area could well cause the outfit to be called the "zebra company". There are five master sergeants, a first sergeant, six tech. sgts., 13 staffs 15 sgts and innumerable corporals.

It's a far cry from the swanky Mobile Rifle days to see the men out in the field setting up pup tents. But the outfit has soldiered for 106 years, so hey say they can take it for one more annum. And pity Captain Joseph Langan. He must take this ungodly, unrelated and highly important group of men as his to have and mold. Ranking in that outfit is as vague as a soldier's remembrance of civilian life.

Mess Corporal Latest Thing

Newly made head of Co. C, 156 Infantry's mess hall is Corporal Kliebert Martin of that company. We're wondering how a "mess corporal's" going to get on with the fellows who've been used to being fed by a mess sgt.

Take A Tip From This Smart Sgt.

You've probably seen it in the comic magazines but now it's happened in real life . . .

Sgt. Aldwin P. Alleman, Co. A. 156th Inf., got tired of walking when his company was on a hike one day this week so he remedied the situation . . . by falling out of the moving column and hitch-hiking a ride to his destination!

Dixie Boxers Train Hard For Navy

Professional and amateur, private and sergeant, Forty-third and Thirty first, are pitted against each other daily here as army boxers prepare for the much publicized Army-Navy bouts in Jacksonville, May 17.

Former world champion Petey Sarron, with Captain Ben Hudson, division recreational officer, directs the stable and daily grueling workouts. His years of experience and the eagerness of the boxers assure a conditioned group and a favorable showing on fight-night, not only by soldiers and sailors but the entire boxing world through the entrance of Mike Jacobs, Madison Square Garden, as promoter.

Leading contender from the 31st Division is Pvt. Tommy E. Gomez, Tampa heavyweight. Gomez is regarded by many, including Captain Hudson and Sarron, as a potential world champion within the next four years. His weight is 181.

But several of the other fighters are showing promise and it will be a well balanced team by May 17th, according to Captain Hudson. The natural "grudge" and a chance to perform before and with the elite of boxing circles is an opportunity they don't intend to miff if hard work produces winners. Final eliminations will be held sometime early in May.

Dixie Evzone Likes It Here

Proud to be in the United States Army is Private Anastas Vasil, born in Florina, Greece. "Tom" as he is known by the boys in Company I, 155th Infantry, served in the Greek army in his youth and, states his training officers, his rigid discipline in that army seems to have helped him quite a lot; and helps to explain why the Greeks are famous soldiers.

Vasil has traveled extensively over Europe and speaks many languages fluently, among which are his native tongue, Bulgarian, English, Serbian, and Russian. He came to Canada in 1930 and became a Canadian citizen, later moving to Mississippi where he enlisted in the army at the time of induction of National Guardsmen last November. Vasil is quite familiar with the places where the drama in Greece is being staged at the present. His brother is a soldier in the Greek Artillery. "I am very happy to serve under the flag of the United States and I think it is the most liberal army in the world" said Vasil.

Wash Job A La Kingsley

Pvt. John Henry Burson, Service Company, 167th Infantry, of Gadsden, Alabama, has invented a new way to wash a "jeep" as army reconnaissance cars are nick named. He drives the vehicle several yards out into Kingsley Lake, puts on his bathing trunks and proceeds to give "jeep" a thorough washing. When the machine is clean so is Burson.

First Dixie Selectee Parade

Marking the general public's first view of the results of military training on the Army's selectees, more than 1,200 of them and their instructors of the 156th Infantry paraded in St. Augustine last Sunday to help that city celebrate the 376th Anniversary of the first religious ceremony on U. S. soil.

Before the parade, the soldiers spent three hours sight seeing in the famous old city. Brigadier General Louis F. Guerre, commander of the 156th Infantry Brigade and Colonel James H. Kuttner, commander of the 156th reviewed the troops along the route of march.

130 trucks from the 156th Infantry and 106th Quartermaster convoyed the parade to St. Augustine. An army aid station was set up in the Civic Center Park, which seemed to be very interesting to onlooking civilians.

"Medium" French For 156th Frenchmen

Recognize this soldier?

"voici mes orders generales:

1. De prendre sein de cette tour et de tour les visibles properites de government.

2. De faire ma ronde, merchant au maniere militaire, soyant tourjours . . ."

If you speak French you'll recognize them. They're the general orders every soldier has to know. These are printed in French up in the 156th Infantry regiment, for the benefit of the French-speaking selectees. The French they used was "neither school-book, parisian nor "cajun" said Lt. Colonel Frank P. Stubbs, in charge of the training regiment. "We tried to strike a happy medium that the majority could understand" said he.

Mascot-Minded QM's Swap, Juggle

This company is nuts on its mascots (don't get sore at us for mentioning mascots again—the man's got a knife in our backs). First, it had a pig, remember? Some time ago; then, after pig was banished by regimental order it took a Gopher, of all things; which proceeded to hibernate in a hole immediately constructed by itself; then the company played host one night to a goat, hoping he would turn out agreeable enough to remain a while. But he didn't for reasons plain to be smelled. Now, they have a rooster! But, it looks like he'll have a dark fate, for the mess sergeant already has a glint in his eye. . . and many notches on his butcher knife handle! This is Company F of 106th Quartermaster.

First Loss For 156th's First Co.

The first "casualty" of Co. A, 156th Infantry, is Pvt. Cecil A. DeArmond, who will return to Baton Rouge in a few days after receiving a medical discharge from the army. DeArmond has been in the Station Hospital at Camp Blanding since Dec. 23, 1940, when the Baton Rouge unit arrived in Florida.

Her Troubles, Little Ones, Mounting Up



The center of attraction here is Isabel Egan, a Scotch terrier nick-named "Whiskey" because her master loves her so well. Scattered about the group are her five latest—born April Fools Day—which brings her total production to date to the amazing figure of 27. Isabel is already up and looking around.

Owner of the lady and pups is Warrant Officer Don Egan, of Jacksonville, Fla., leader of the 124th Infantry band. "Whiskey" is the band's mascot—she brings them luck (and, apparently, that's not all.) The admiring soldiers gathered around Isabel are five members of the band and a dog-loving Lieutenant. They are (front, left to right) Pvt. Gene Sutherland, Miami, pianist; Sgt. Charles M. Smith, Jacksonville, string bass; Lt. Frank H. Crowe, St. Augustine and Tampa, 124th recreation officer; Pvt. Ray Halpern, Jacksonville, tenor sax man; (back row, left to right) Pvt. Norman F. Williams, Jacksonville, trombonist and Pvt. David R. Haworth, Jacksonville, trumpet.

Father of the two male and three female pups was a traveling bull dog, it is said, and suggestions for names are solicited.

Two Way Helmet To Be Tried

Announcement from the War Department this week says the army is testing a new type steel helmet for its soldiers. The new job will cover more forehead, more back of the head and more of the side (of the head) too. Weighing about two and a half pounds and so constructed as not to hamper the use of a rifle, either when standing or prone, the new headgear has a lining which is a hat in itself, and the steel part may be removed to leave a field hat, which will be the regulation field top-piece to replace the present "over-seas" cap.

The new helmet will keep both the sun out of your eyes and rain from dripping down your

collar, is more comfortable on the head than the old, and adjustable with buckles. The Infantry Board at Fort Benning is doing the testing.

Kiwanis Night

An all-Kiwanis night at Camp Blanding will be staged for Kiwanians of both the 31st and 43rd Divisions, as well as all other troops here it is announced by Frank S. Wright, District Governor of this organization. Date and place for the event has not been set. All interested Kiwanians are asked to contact Colonel J. H. Spengler of 106th Quartermaster. Colonel Spengler has declared open season for suggestions for making this an outstanding affair.

They Know What Makes 'em Tick



Three members of the motor maintenance section of the Service and Ammunition battery of the 114th Field Artillery's first Battalion inspect the non-working motor of one of the Regiment's station wagons. The job of keeping the units' moving equipment in working shape is left to these boys, and thus far they have recorded a high standard of efficiency. The repairmen are, left to right, Pvt. Buster Summers, Pvt. Ushur Camp and Pvt. Billie Curtis. —Staff photo

Kind Heart But He Was Hungry

What was almost a major catastrophe for the men of company F, 155th Infantry, from Jackson, Mississippi, was narrowly averted by the kindness of heart of a commissioned officer this week. On a regimental problem in the field, in which the regiment was divided into two opposing forces, Lt. J. L. Golson, of the Anti-Tank company and his platoon were establishing an outpost near the enemy lines when they saw a truck approaching, apparently lost. When they stopped the vehicle, they discovered that it was the chow truck of the Jackson Company, bringing dinner to the men.

"But this has to go through sir," pleaded the driver, "those men are mighty hungry."

Lt. Golson considered. . . "Let's see what you have."

The lids were raised off the steaming pots and Lt. Golson sampled to his heart's content.

When the relieved driver was finally let go, after the Lieutenant had made a full meal, he was heard to remark. . . "I believe that officer was just hungry anyhow."

Medical Miracle By Dixie Doctor

We remind you, not by any means to encourage the willful exploitation of the different sensitive organs of the anatomy by removing and toying with them, but merely to assure the personnel of the Division that capable hands are in charge of instruments at the Station Hospital. This week, under the direction of Col. Poust, Camp Surgeon, a boy's heart was taken out and sewed up! And he's getting well. When the call came into the hospital that the patient was on his way over the surgeon staff immediately prepared a table for him and was ready to begin just as soon as he entered. He was rushed to the operating room where his heart was removed and three stitches were taken to repair a wound received from a bayonet when it accidentally came from the gun of a friend, mimicking bayonet tactics.

Jax Club Will Entertain Sat.

An announcement from the office of Public Relations Officer, Col. O. W. McNeese this week states the Army and Navy Committee, Jewish Welfare Board, 29 Mutual Life Building (telephone 5-7534), Jacksonville, invites all Camp Blanding enlisted men to dance at the Jacksonville Jewish Center, corner Third and Silver streets, April 26, beginning at 8:00 o'clock p. m.

Fatigues Fitting For Officers Now

Dixie officers will be able to come "down to earth" in field activities from now on according to a Division order issued this week. They will be allowed to wear the heringbone coveralls which have become so popular among enlisted men of late. Their insignia of rank will not be worn on the shoulders; the bars or other emblems will be worn in place of collar ornaments. So be careful sergeant; that buck private in fatigues might put you on k. p.

Heat Wave Causes Unwanted Crying Jag

Tears were plentiful in First sergeant Milton Parnell's tent in headquarters battery of the 56th Field Artillery Brigade the other day. The sergeant, from Gebring, Lt. Alex M. Archibald, of St. Petersburg, and battery clerk, corporal Phillip Morgan, also of Gebring, were sitting in the tent. Morgan complained he couldn't see his typewriter because his eyes were hurting. Lt. Archibald felt something burning his leg, while Sgt. Parnell was crying a little.

Investigation revealed that the Lieutenant had in his pocket two tear gas capsules, left over from a gas demonstration the preceding day, and the heat had melted them, releasing the gas. The trio resolved to keep their gas masks handy after this.

General Approves Selectee Show

Reviewing for Brigadier General Sumter L. Lowry, Jr., last Saturday, the selectee regiment displayed their equipment and erected pup tents on their drill area. This is the first time they have been asked to exhibit their knowledge they've gained since being at Camp Blanding. And they had for spectators also, their critical older soldiers. Another thing they did was simulate a firing problem with the heavy 155 MM howitzer. Reports from the inspecting officer were in favor of the soldiers.

Ceremony Marks 114th Beach Day

Planting palms and announcing its beach too is the 114th Field Artillery regiment. Season, for swimming, was officially opened this week, master of ceremonies being Captain Fred O'Bannon, who also did most of the planning for the site and aided in overseeing the construction of pier, laying of beach sand and planting palms. At the official opening, contestants dived, raced and stunted.

Beauty Treatment For Company Area

Soldiers turned horticulturists are those in the 116th Field Artillery, an outfit from Tampa, men who are fond, very fond, of a homey atmosphere. So they are planting many palm trees, long-leaf pines, grass with fertilizer on it along with liberal dashes of water to keep it going in the sand. Results are attractive, and the regiment will soon resemble the South Florida Tropics.

Air Minded Soldier Quits, Joins Corps

Did you ever hear of such! Here's a boy who quit the army to join the army. Seems like something's wrong; or he's in something of a circle. But, being a trumpeter may have something to do with it. No . . . and yes, in a way; anyway he's decided he likes aeronautical mechanics better than trumpeting and one thing the army wants is its soldiers to be satisfied. So private Mitchell J. Protta asked for his discharge so he could join the air corps. He will be at Tampa, at the Army Air base.